

Volunteer Hours Worth Six Million Dollars!

By Geraldine Campbell

If a monetary value (based on a 1987 average wage of \$11.7/hour) were placed on the work of the Women's Institute for the people of Ontario and their communities, the figure would reach at least \$6 million. Last year the Women's Institute donated half a million volunteer hours to various causes - 4-H, Agriculture in the Classroom, local fairs, nursing homes, or wherever they were needed. WI members realize the importance of their communities, and they are prepared to donate time to assist others.

Next time you buy a cake at a WI Bake Sale or attend one of their fund raising functions, be thankful there

is a rural women's organization that cares enough about their community to do something for it. As you travel Ontario, you will notice that the WI Hall is often the link that holds the community together.

This information was part of the report I gave as the Public Relations Officer at the FWIO annual meeting last November in Guelph.

However, Women's Institutes are not only about fund raising and volunteer hours, they are also about resolutions. When 20,000 women speak as one voice - as they do when a WI resolution is passed - action will happen. After all, Brock University exists today because of a Women's Institute resolution.

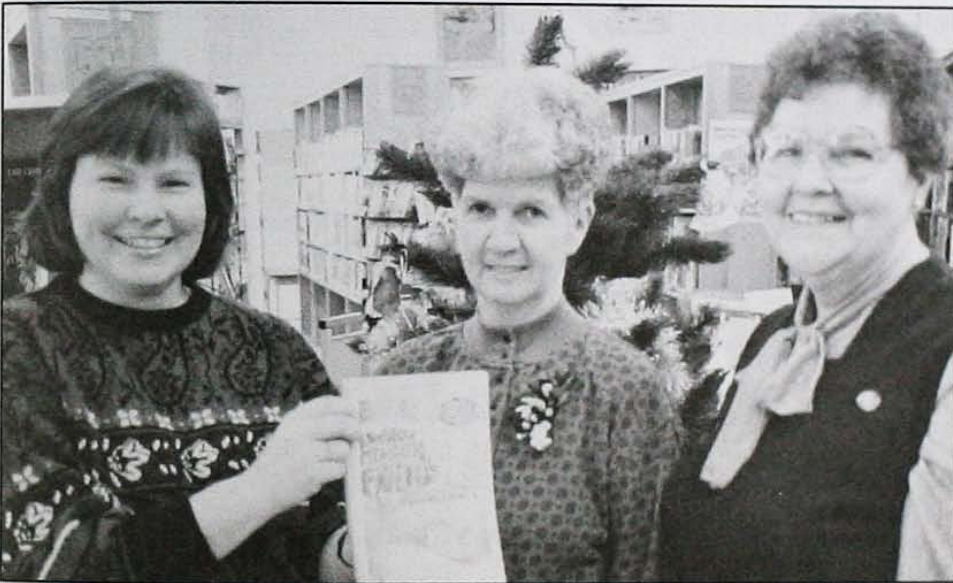
This year, 12 out of the 18 resolu-

tions presented by Joan Law, Resolutions Convenor at the FWIO Annual Meeting, were ratified. With a theme of "Women and the Environment" for the decade, it is natural that many resolutions would be on that topic. Many briefs were presented by WI members to local councils on environmental issues, and action has resulted at the local level.

The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario is an organization that has been around for over 90 years, and it is not afraid to tackle issues that are important to its members.

Geraldine Campbell is the Public Relations Officer for the FWIO.

"Household Hints" From Selwyn WI



Environmentally Friendly Household Hints, compiled by the Selwyn Women's Institute, is a timely and extremely useful book. This Branch wanted to do more than lip service to the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario theme for the 1990s - "Women and Their Environment." They collected these household hints from a wide variety of sources, and ran them past a wide variety of experts. The publication is considered one of

the best of its kind presently on the market. The book was recently presented to the Lakefield Librarian, Jill Warren (left), by Selwyn WI President, Evelyn Wilson (centre), and Convenor of the book, Margaret Killeen (right).

The book costs \$5, plus \$1.50 for postage. It can be obtained by writing to Margaret Killeen, RR3 Lakefield, Ontario, K0L 2H0.

Congratulations

Anniversaries

Hawkestone WI, Simcoe East	40
Campbell's Corner WI, Grey South	65
Lynn Valley WI, Norfolk South	65
Desboro WI, Grey Centre	70
Sandhill WI, Peel North	75
Finch WI, Stormont	80
Gordon WI, Manitoulin West	80
Caledon WI, Peel North	85
Castleton WI, Northumberland E.	85
Coningsby WI, Wellington Centre	85
Foresters Falls WI, Renfrew North	85
Silver Water WI, Manitoulin West	85
St. Helen's WI, Huron West	85
Kimberley WI, Grey East	90

Life Memberships

Beamsville WI
-Pauline Gardner
-Margaret White
-Margaret Strong
Caledon WI
-Ruth Speers
Silver Water WI
-Ruth Duncanson
-Hazel Addison
-Dorothy Addison
-Kathleen Trick
-Bernice Wismer

Certificates of Merit

Caledon WI
-Mary Lindsey Hunter
Silver Water WI
-Frances Colville
-Eunice Sifferd
-Mary E. Lane